

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A computer-implemented method for automated underwriting of a portfolio of segmentable, financial instrument assets using a portfolio valuation system, the portfolio valuation system including a computer coupled to a database, said method comprising the steps of:

defining clusters of ~~financial instruments~~ assets by common attributes, wherein each defined cluster includes assets having common attributes;

utilizing the computer to perform analytics that enable a selection of sample assets from each defined cluster for valuation purposes;

receiving at the computer a value assigned to each sample asset which is based on an expert opinion of value from selected samples of the clusters; and

performing an underwriting process on each sample asset using the expert opinion including determining whether each sample asset includes a combination of attributes and includes any additional attributes, analyzing each sample asset having a combination of attributes, and reconciling the value assigned to each sample asset having a combination of attributes.

checking values for combinations of attributes; and

reconciling the values.

2. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of selecting and setting individual attributes to be used for the underwriting valuing each asset included in the portfolio based on the underwriting of each sample asset.

3. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 2 further comprising the step of classifying individual the assets into clusters based on the selected individual attributes.

4. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 3 further comprising the step of valuing each asset included in each cluster based on the value assigned to each sample asset from the underwriting process ~~applying a cluster valuation to each cluster asset.~~

5. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 4 further comprising the steps of:
~~desegregating values using a rule~~ combining the assets based on at least one of the value of each asset and the selected individual attributes; and

~~creating a credit analyst table with the desegregated values~~ based on the combined assets.

6. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 5 further comprising the step of using the credit analyst table to establish at least one asset class.

7. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of defining clusters of ~~financial instruments~~ assets by common attributes further comprises the step of identifying clusters of assets with common characteristics using business rules.

8. (currently amended) A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving at the computer a value assigned to each sample asset which is based on an expert opinion ~~an expert opinion of value~~ further comprises the step of evaluating the assets by computer with the assistance from an experienced underwriter.

9. (currently amended) A portfolio valuation system for automated underwriting of segmentable, financial instrument assets, said system comprising:

a computer configured as a server and further configured with a database of asset portfolios; and

at least one client system connected to said server through a network, said server configured to:

define clusters of ~~financial instruments~~ assets by common attributes wherein each defined cluster includes assets having common attributes,

select sample assets from each defined cluster for valuation purposes,

receive a value assigned to each sample asset which is based on an expert opinion of ~~value from selected samples of the clusters, and~~

perform an underwriting process on each sample asset using the expert opinion including determining whether each sample asset includes a combination of attributes and includes any additional attributes, analyzing each sample asset having a combination of attributes, and reconciling the value assigned to each sample asset having a combination of attributes.

~~check values for combinations of attributes and~~

~~reconcile the values of the samples.~~

10. (currently amended) A system according to Claim 9 wherein said server is further configured to select and set individual attributes to be used for ~~the underwriting~~ valuing each asset included in the portfolio based on the underwriting of each sample asset.

11. (currently amended) A system according to Claim 10 wherein said server is further configured to classify ~~individual~~ the assets into clusters based on the selected individual attributes.

12. (currently amended) A system according to Claim 11 wherein said server is further configured to value each asset included in each cluster based on the value assigned to each sample asset from the underwriting process ~~apply a cluster valuation to each cluster asset.~~

13. (currently amended) A system according to Claim 12 wherein said server is configured to:

~~desegregate values using a rule~~ combine the assets based on at least one of the value of each asset and the selected individual attributes; and

~~create a credit analyst table with the desegregated values~~ based on the combined assets.

14. (currently amended) A system according to Claim 13 wherein said server is further configured to use the credit analyst table to establish at least one asset class.

15. (original) A system according to Claim 9 wherein said server is configured to identify clusters of assets with common characteristics using business rules.

16. (original) A system according to Claim 9 wherein said server is configured to evaluate the assets with assistance from an experienced underwriter.

17. (currently amended) A computer for automated underwriting of segmentable, financial instrument assets, said computer including a database of asset portfolios, said computer programmed to:

~~define clusters of financial instruments~~ assets by common attributes wherein each defined cluster includes assets having common attributes;

select sample assets from each defined cluster for valuation purposes;

receive a value assigned to each sample asset which is based on an expert opinion of
~~value from selected samples of the clusters; and~~

perform an underwriting process on each sample asset using the expert opinion including determining whether each sample asset includes a combination of attributes and includes any additional attributes, analyzing each sample asset having a combination of attributes, and reconciling the value assigned to each sample asset having a combination of attributes.

~~check values for combinations of attributes; and~~

~~reconcile the values of the samples.~~

18. (currently amended) A computer according to Claim 17 programmed to select and set individual attributes to be used for ~~the underwriting~~ valuing each asset included in the portfolio based on the underwriting of each sample asset.

19. (currently amended) A computer according to Claim 18 programmed to classify ~~individual~~ the assets into clusters based on the selected individual attributes.

20. (currently amended) A computer according to Claim 19 programmed to value each asset included in each cluster based on the value assigned to each sample asset from the underwriting process ~~apply a cluster valuation to each cluster asset.~~

21. (currently amended) A computer according to Claim 20 programmed to:

~~desegregate values using a rule~~ combine the assets based on at least one of the value of each asset and the selected individual attributes; and

create a credit analyst table ~~with the desegregated values~~ based on the combined assets.

22. (currently amended) A computer according to Claim 21 programmed to use the credit analyst table to establish at least one asset class.

23. (original) A computer according to Claim 17 programmed to identify clusters of assets with common characteristics using business rules.

24. (original) A computer according to Claim 17 programmed to evaluate the assets with assistance from an experienced underwriter.